In the Claims

1-90 (canceled).

91 (currently amended). A method of increasing the partitioning of dietary lipids between the liver and peripheral tissues comprising the administration of an agent selected from ~~the group consisting of C1q; AdipoQ; ApM1; Acrp30; cerebellin; multimerin; fragments of C1q, AdipoQ, ApM1, Acrp30, cerebellin, or multimerin; SEQ ID NO: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14; and biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14~~ ApM1, SEQ ID NO:11, or a biologically active homolog of ApM1 or SEQ ID NO: 11, said homolog having at least 80% homology to its respective sequence and the ability to increase partitioning of dietary lipids between the liver and peripheral tissues.

92 (previously presented). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises ApM1.

93 (previously presented). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a fragment of ApM1.

94-97 (canceled).

98 (previously presented). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:11.

99-105 (canceled).

106 (previously presented). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:11.

107-109. (canceled)

110 (new). A method of treating a condition in which it is desirable to increase the partitioning of dietary lipids to the liver, reduce the levels of free fatty acids in obese individuals, decrease the body weight of obese individuals, or treat an obesity related condition selected from the group consisting of obesity-related atherosclerosis, obesity-related insulin resistance, obesity-related hypertension, microangiopathic lesions resulting from obesity-related Type II diabetes, ocular lesions caused by microangiopathy in obese individuals with Type II diabetes, and renal lesions caused by microangiopathy in obese individuals with Type II diabetes comprising the administration of ApM1 or fragments of ApM1.

111 (new). The method according to claim 110, wherein ApM1 is administered.

112 (new). The method according to claim 110, wherein fragments of ApM1 are administered.

113 (new). The method according to claim 112, wherein said fragment comprises SEQ ID NO:11.

114 (new). The method according to claim 91, wherein said administration comprises oral, rectal, transmucosal, intestinal, or parenteral administration of said agent.

115 (new). The method according to claim 114, wherein said parenteral administration comprises intramuscular, subcutaneous, intramedullary, intravenous, intraperitoneal, or intranasal delivery.

116 (new). The method according to claim 91, wherein said method further comprises surgical implantation of a device for the administration of said agent.

117 (new). The method according to claim 91, wherein said agent consists of SEQ ID NO: 11.

118 (new). The method according to claim 91, wherein said agent consists of a homolog of SEQ ID NO: 11 having at least 80% homology to SEQ ID NO: 11 and the ability to increase partitioning of dietary lipids between the liver and peripheral tissues.

119 (new). The method according to claim 91, wherein said homolog exhibits at least one consensus sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2.

120 (new). The method according to claim 98, wherein said homolog exhibits at least one consensus sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2.

121 (new). The method according to claim 118, wherein said homolog exhibits at least one consensus sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2.

122 (new). The method according to claim 91, wherein said agent is a biologically active homolog of ApM1.

123 (new). The method according to claim 122, wherein said homolog exhibits at least one consensus sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2.